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ABSTRACT

This user's guide presents an interdisciplinary teaching approach for middle school instruction in the area of African-American history. It emphasizes the importance of cultural diversity and the need for tolerance to allow students to see racial harmony as a step to global peace. The guide is divided into four sections that encompass communication skills, mathematics, science, and social science. Each section stresses the outstanding contributions of African Americans in their particular field. Open dialogue is encouraged. In addition, the guide stresses that the history of African Americans is part of the nation's history and, as such, should be integrated into the entire year's study. The activities within the units include interviews; reading, writing, and research projects; experiments; active hands-on projects, games, dramatizations, and simulations; and projects that include some form of art or music. The activities combine learning skills and understandings related to specific content areas with higher-order thinking skills, multiculturalism, creativity, social skills, responsibility, compassion, leadership, cooperation, and self-esteem. (GLR)

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